

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Northon Rodrigues et al.  
Application No.: 10/527,576  
Filed: March 11, 2005  
Title: Associating Notifications of the Status of a Data Network by Use of  
a Topology Editor  
Examiner: Andy Ho  
Art Unit: 2194

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING A  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioners for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination. The Preliminary Amendment responds to the Final Office Action dated November 2, 2007, for which a shortened statutory period of three months ending February 2, 2008 was set in which to respond. Since, February 2, 2008 falls on a weekend, the Applicants are filing this response of February 4, 2008 (the next day in which this response may be filed, and be within the statutory period of three months). The following amendments and comments are submitted and reconsideration of the claim rejections is respectfully requested.

The Applicants submit that, this response is timely.

**Listing/Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.